

Amoyne

^{Campbell. 3. a(2)}
with the writer's comments

J. P. Campbell

Widely used
Bundary

THE LOSS *June 13/81.*
Celtic

OF THE

CROWN OF LOEGAIRE LURC

FROM THE

DINDSENCHAS IN THE BOOK OF
LEINSTER.

EDITED BY

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P R E F A C E.

MISS STOKES, in an interesting essay, has lately described a piece of gold-work, which she believes to be a fragment of an ancient Irish crown. In reading the text of *Dindsenchas*, contained in the recently published facsimile of the 'Book of Leinster,' I came across this short tale, which tells of the loss of a crown perhaps as magnificent as that on which Miss Stokes has shown so much artistic skill and antiquarian research.

The precise date of the text is undetermined. It is probably not later than A.D., 1200. The '*Dindsenchas*' is an ancient collection of tales about Irish localities; and this part of it has not been printed before. *Laeghaire Lorc*, as is told by Keating, was slain by his brother at *Dinn-righ*, on the banks of the river *Barrow*. The brother, by advice of a Druid, feigned illness and lay in a litter. *Laeghaire Lorc* came unarmed, and was stabbed while bending over him. *Cobthach*, the murderer, slew other members of the king's family, and compelled his nephew to eat parts of the hearts of his father and grandfather. In the midst of such ferocity it may easily be imagined that the ornaments of the murdered king were flung into a lake to save them from falling into the hands of the usurper. I do not know the source of Keating's story, but it seems to be part of the same romance as the somewhat bald statement in the '*Dindsenchas*.'

The text is taken from p. 168, col. 2, of the facsimile, of which it occupies the last seven lines. The mark of aspiration, and the well known characters for *air* and *ar*, are printed without note, but all other interpretations of contractions are marked by italics.

I was unable to construe the two words which end the first line of the verse, and I owe their explanation to the kindness of Mr. W. M. Hennessy. With his usual courtesy he took the trouble to collate the line with the original, and wrote me the valuable note which I have printed in the vocabulary.

In the vocabulary I have added a few illustrations. Those without a reference are from notes of my own of expressions in use at the present day. Every alphabetically arranged collection of words has its use, and my excuse for printing so small a fragment is that it is an illustration of the elaborate paper which is the latest of Miss Stokes's numerous contributions to the study of Irish art.

LOCH SÉTA.

Loch séta . unde nomen . nin. Sét as dech
robaí in herind in tan sin . i . mind loegaire
luirc rí g lagen : roláset ingena
faindle mic duib daroth ind . Unde poeta

P. A loch lindmar línib lúad
crotchruthad is cian úa
báidid do lind lathar úgle
mind marglan mic ugainé.

Loch séta : unde nomen? Not difficult. The best treasure that was in Erin at that time, viz. the crown of Loegaire Lorc, King of Leinster : the daughters of Faindle, son of Dubhdaroth, cast it therein.

Unde poeta.

P. O full lake, with numbers of praises, since thou wast created it is long since. Thy water of bright expanse shall drown the brilliant crown of the son of Ugainé.

BOOKS QUOTED.

1. *Annala R. E.*—Annala Ríogheachta Éireann. Annals of the Kingdom of Ireland. Ed. J. O'DONOVAN. Dublin, 1851.
2. *Corm. Trans.*—Cormac's Glossary. Translated by J. O'DONOVAN; edited by WHITLEY STOKES, LL.D. Calcutta, 1868.
3. *F. A.*—Fis Adamnain. Ed. W. STOKES. Simla, 1870.
4. *I. T.*—Irische Texte. By ERNST WINDISCH. Leipzig, 1880.
5. *L. U. facs.*—Leabhar na h-uidhri, facsimile. J. O'LONGAN and B. O'LOONEY. Dublin, 1870.
6. Book of Leinster, facsimile. Ed. R. ATKINSON, LL.D. Dublin, 1880.
7. Keating's History of Ireland. Trans. J. O'MAHONY. New York, 1866.

VOCABULARY.

a, vocative particle.

as, relative used to form superlative.

báidid, future sg. 3 of **báidim**, I drown ; **báthadh bhéidir agus thainic thóbair**, “ perhaps ” was drowned and “ had well nigh ” got through.

bai, perf. sg. 3 from root **bhu . robai**, was.

chruthad, past pass. sg. 2. from **cruthaim**, I create ; **ro t chruthad**.

cian, adj. long ; **is cian o choin**, it is an age ago ; **cian as cuimne**, time out of mind ; **leis na ciantaibh**, from old times.

dech, adj. best ; **as dech**, superlative of **deg**, good.

do, possessive pronoun, thy.

duibdaroth, gen. sg. of **dubhdaroth**, a man’s name.

Dubhdara, mac mic Aighennáin tigherna Luighne, décc. Dubhdara, son of the son of Aighennan, Lord of Luighne, died. **Annala R. E.**, ii, 944. **Dubhdarach mac Domhnalláin**, id., ii, 716.

erind, dative sg. of **ériu**, Ireland, after the preposition **i**.

faindle, name of a man. **Faoindealach mac Maenaigh abb Arda Macha decc.** Faoindealach, son of Maenach, Abbot of Armagh, died. **Annala R. E.**, i, 402. This Faoindealach was engaged, according to the Annals, in two contests for the succession to Armagh, and died in A.D. 794. It seems possible that the explanation **oinmitt** oaf (‘ *Corm. Trans.*,’ p. 81) may have been applied to the name by some writer of an opposing faction, and that it has thus, as has happened

with similar notes, come to be handed down as an explanatory meaning and not as a comment.

glé, adj. bright ; **ngle**, after **lathar**.

herind, s., **erind**.

i, prep., followed by dative : **i nherind**.

in, article, used with demonstrative **in t an sin**.

ind, prep. with suffixed pronoun : therein.

ingena, nom. pl. of **ingen**, daughter.

is, sg. 3, from **amm**, I am.

lagen, Leinster, gen: sg.

lâset : **rolâset**, pl. 3, past active, from **laaim**, I cast.

lathar, gen. sg. of **lathair**, stretch, **lathar ngle**. See Book of Leinster : Contents, p. 44, note, where **lathar** of the facs. is misprinted **lathair**, and the second reference is an error for 192 a 55.

lind, nom. sg., water (as in Ulleswater).

lindmar, adj. full ; **cidatlínmair**, though they be very numerous, *F. A.*, l. 106.

línib, dat. pl. of **lín**, number.

loch, voc. sg. lake ; **is usce do loch**, it is water to a lake ; Proverb in fragment of *Historia Britonum*, *L. U.*, facs., p. 4, col. 1, last line.

loegaire, name of a man ; gen. sg.

luad, gen. pl. of **luad**, mention, praise. "In the original the words are **línib luad**, which are words frequently introduced into Irish poems as meaningless padding to fill up a line, like **tolam sét**, **tolaib gal**, **digrais dend**, **milib mod**, &c. The words **línib luad**, however, have an abstract meaning in themselves, though, as I have said, merely used in your extract to fill up a line. **línib** is the ablative (or dat.) plural of **lín**, a part, a number, a quantity, and **luad** is the gen. pl. of **luad**, mention, praise, &c. **línib luad** would therefore signify : with numbers (or multitudes) of praises. The words do not refer to any characteristic of the lake of which the poet was writing. Like the other fill-gaps to which I refer the first word of the formula

is usually put in the ablative case and chiefly in the plural, and one may suppose a preposition understood, as (co) tolaib gal (with) floods of deeds."—*Letter from Mr. W. M. Hennessy, Dublin, January 3rd, 1881.*

luirc, gen. sg. of **lurc**, cognomen of Loegaire, son of Ugainé mór; **aois domhain, 4607**; **an ced Bhliadhain do Laoghaire Lorc, mac Ughaine Mhoir, hi righe nEreann innsin**: Age of the world, 4607: The first year this of Laoghaire Lorc, son of Ughaine Mor, in the kingship of Ireland.—**Annala, R. E.**, i, 76.

marglan, adj. right clean; **uisce glan**, clean water (not dirty); **uisce glinn**, clear water (as crystal); **uisce nios gloine**, cleaner water; **uisce nios glinne**, clearer water.

mic, gen. sg. of **mac**, son.

mind, acc. sg. of **mind**, crown; **no mind rí**g, or a king's diadem.—*F. A.*, 68.

nígle, s. gle.

nin=**ni insa**, not difficult.—*Windisch, I. T.*, p. 709.

o, conj. since.

ríg, gen. sg. of **rí**, king.

robaí, s. **baí**.

roláset, s. **láset**.

sét, s. nom. sg. treasure.

sétá, name of the lake. Compare **meru seta sithgelui**, long, whitest of white fingers.—*Tochmarc Etaine, in Windisch, I. T.*, p. 120, l. 3.

sin, demonstr. pr. that.

t, infixed pronoun 2 sg. in rotchruthad.

tan, nom. sg., time.

úa, s. o.

ugaine, name of a man, gen. sg.

BY THE AUTHOR.

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